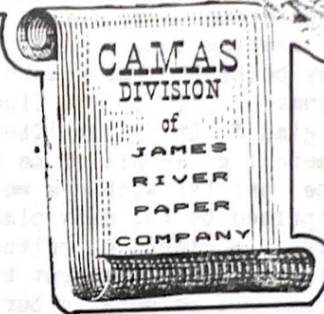
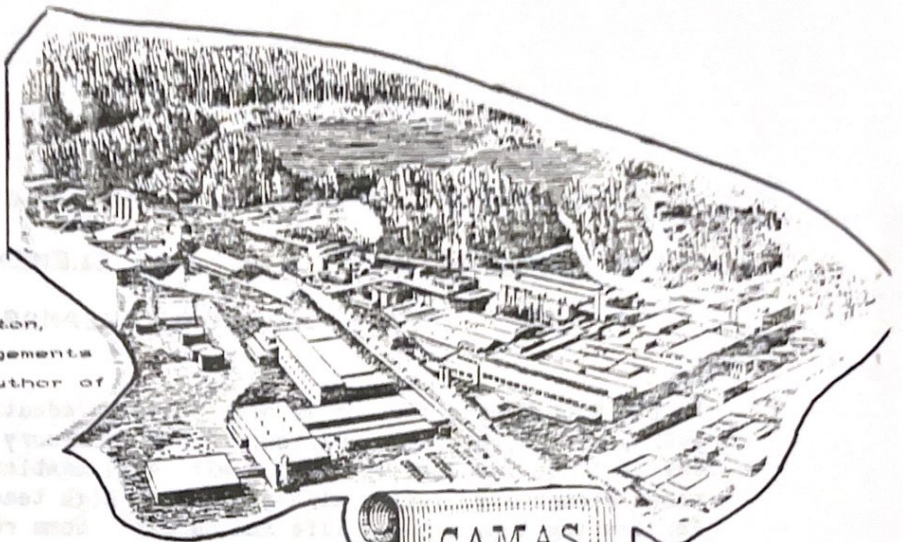


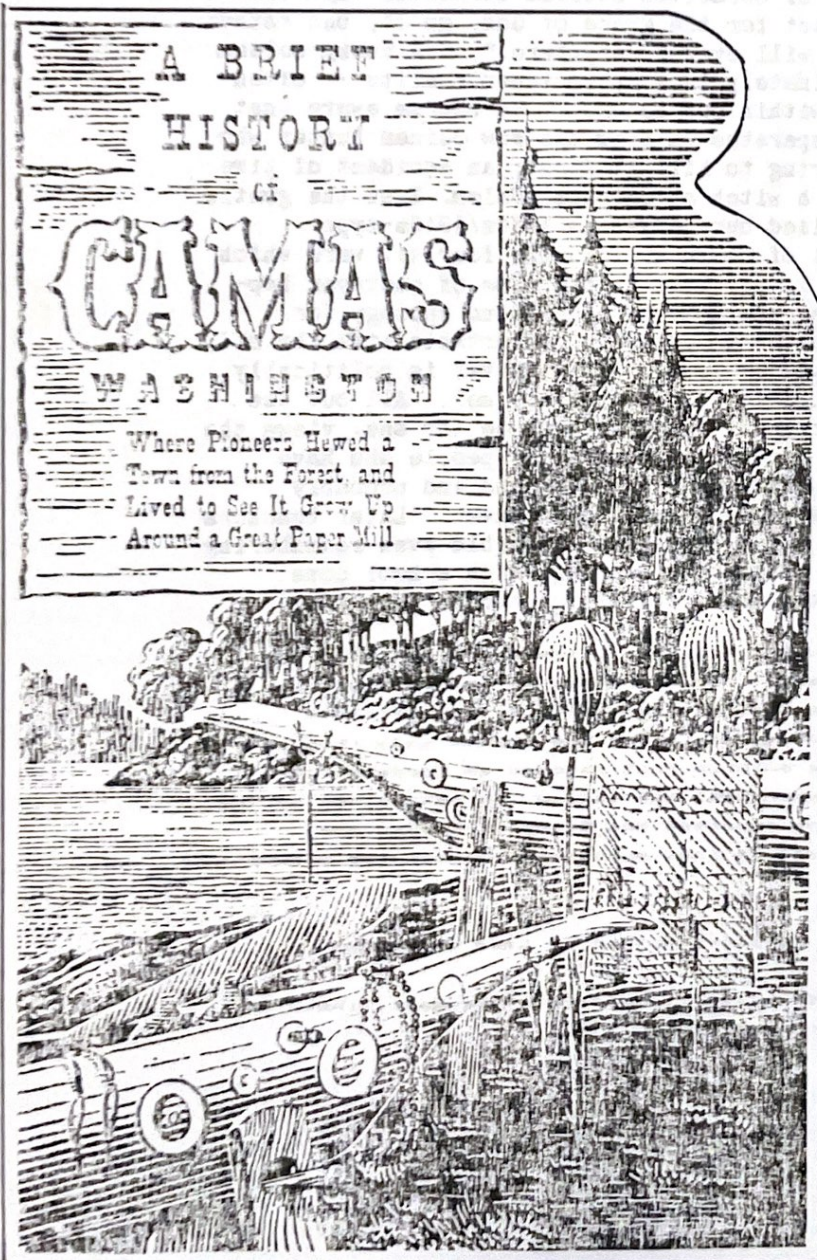
Figure 1^a

4 From
A Brief History of Camas, Washington,
by William D. Welch with acknowledgements
to Milton Bona and W.K. Peery (author of
Silver Streams). First
printing was June 1941 (Sixteenth
printing, Aug. 1966).



THE CAMAS LILY

Blossoming with clusters of showy deep blue flowers, something like a hyacinth in habit, the Camas Lily was eagerly sought by Columbia river valley Indians, since its bulb was an important part of their diet. Grown in meadows and marshes, it was harvested in mid-summer and prepared for eating, cooked in primitive baking pits, first being wrapped in swamp grass before contact with hot stones. When the cooked bulbs were dry, they were reduced to a flour from which bread could be made. When bottled in water, the bulbs yielded a molasses that was treasured for use on important festival occasions. Indians called the flower the KAMASS.



A BRIEF HISTORY

CAMAS

WASHINGTON

Where Pioneers Hewed a
Town from the Forest, and
Lived to See It Grow Up
Around a Great Paper Mill